

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A molten metal infiltrating method for infiltrating a linear  
2 material with a molten metal, wherein a linear material previously  
3 is coated with a flux.

1 2. The molten metal infiltrating method comprising the steps  
2 of:

3 continuously introducing a linear material to be a core into  
4 a bath container through an inlet seal portion provided in a bottom  
5 part of a bath container having a molten metal on a pressurized  
6 inside;

7 consecutively drawing the linear material out of an outlet  
8 seal portion provided in a top part of the bath container,

9 continuously coating the linear material introduced into the  
10 bath container through the inlet seal portion with a flux by a flux  
11 coating reservoir provided in the vicinity of the inlet seal  
12 portion.

1 3. The molten metal infiltrating method according to claim 1,  
2 wherein the linear material is a carbon fiber and the flux is lithium  
3 chloride or sodium chloride.

1 4. The molten metal infiltrating method according to claim 2,  
2 wherein the linear material is a carbon fiber and the flux is lithium  
3 chloride or sodium chloride.

1    5.    A molten metal infiltrating apparatus comprising:  
2                a bath container having an inlet seal portion in a bottom  
3                part and  
4                flux coating means for coating, with a flux, a linear material  
5                continuously introduced into the bath container through the inlet  
6                seal portion in the vicinity of the inlet seal portion.